

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S12885–S12946

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2165–2172, and S. Res. 347–348. **Page S12936**

Measures Reported:

S. 1200, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend the Act. (S. Rept. No. 110–197)

Report to accompany S. Res. 89, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2007, through September 30, 2007, and October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008, and October 1, 2008, through February 28, 2009. (S. Rept. No. 110–198)

S. 1662, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to reauthorize the venture capital program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–199) **Page S12936**

Measures Passed:

Commerce and Justice, and Science Appropriations Act: By 75 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 372), Senate passed H.R. 3093, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S12894–S12925

DeMint Amendment No. 3286, to provide that none of the funds made available under the Act may be used to circumvent any statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive awarding process to award funds to a project in response to a request from a Member of Congress. **Page S12894**

By a unanimous vote of 90 yeas (Vote No. 365), DeMint/Shelby Amendment No. 3289, to prevent Federal employees from purchasing unnecessary first-class or premium-class airline tickets at taxpayers' expense. **Pages S12894–95, S12897–98**

By a unanimous vote of 91 yeas (Vote No. 366), Ensign Amendment No. 3294, to increase funding for the United States Marshals Service to ensure full funding for the Adam Walsh Child Protection and

Safety Act of 2006 and offset the increase by reducing funding for the Advanced Technology Program.

Pages S12895–96, S12905

Leahy Modified Amendment No. 3249, to appropriate an additional \$15,000,000 for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and to provide a full offset for such amount.

(Subsequent to its adoption the amendment was further modified) **Pages S12907–08, S12913–14**

Mikulski (for Kyl) Amendment No. 3279, to increase appropriations for personnel, equipment, and other resources to be used for the analysis of DNA samples. **Pages S12913, S12914–15**

Mikulski (for Sessions) Amendment No. 3283, to use \$10,000,000 from the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund for the expansion of Operation Streamline, the zero tolerance prosecution policy currently in place in the Del Rio and Yuma border sectors. **Page S12913**

Mikulski (for Smith) Modified Amendment No. 3290, to increase appropriations for salaries and expenses for hiring 200 additional Assistant United States Attorneys for the prosecution of offenses relating to the sexual exploitation of children. **Page S12913**

Mikulski (for Stevens) Amendment No. 3278, to correct a technical error in Public Law 110–53 relating to emergency communications modernization. **Page S12913**

Mikulski (for Stevens) Modified Amendment No. 3312, to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to develop and maintain a list of vessels and vessel owners engaged in illegal, unreported, and or unregulated fishing. **Page S12913**

Mikulski (for Sununu) Amendment No. 3314, to make funds available for regional coastal disaster assistance, transition, and recovery programs. **Pages S12913, S12916**

Mikulski (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 3276, to amend the Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act to improve restitution for victims of crime. **Page S12913**

Mikulski (for Boxer) Modified Amendment No. 3304, to make \$2,000,000 available for sampling,

analysis, and clean-up related to the disposal of obsolete vessels owned or operated by the Federal Government in Suisun Bay, California.

Pages S12913, S12915–16

Mikulski (for Landrieu) Modified Amendment No. 3228, to provide funds for bycatch reduction devices for shrimpers in areas of the Gulf Coast impacted by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

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Mikulski (for Bingaman/Smith) Modified Amendment No. 3208, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify that territories and Indian tribes are eligible to receive grants for confronting the use of methamphetamine.

Pages S12913–14

Mikulski Amendment No. 3311, to extend the numerical limitation exception for H-2B non-immigrants.

Pages S12913–14

Mikulski (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 3209, to make certain forestry workers eligible for legal assistance.

Pages S12913–14

Rejected:

Ensign Amendment No. 3295, to increase funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program and offset the increase by reducing NASA funding. (By 68 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 367), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S12895–96, S12904–06

Thune Amendment No. 3317, to provide, in a fiscally responsible manner, additional funding for United States attorneys to prosecute violent crimes in Indian country. (By 62 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 368), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S12899–S12904, S12906–07

Dole Amendment No. 3313, to set aside \$75,000,000 of the funds appropriated under the heading State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance for activities that support State and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to assist the Federal Government's enforcement of immigration laws. (By 50 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 369), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S12908–10

Vitter Amendment No. 3277, to prohibit funds from being used in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. (By 52 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 370), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S12896–97, S12910–13

By 44 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 371) McConnell motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions.

Pages S12921–24

Withdrawn:

Inouye Amendment No. 3214, to establish a fact-finding Commission to extend the study of a prior Commission to investigate and determine facts and circumstances surrounding the relocation, internment, and deportation to Axis countries of Latin Americans of Japanese descent from December 1941

through February 1948, and the impact of those actions by the United States, and to recommend appropriate remedies.

Pages S12894, S12898

During consideration of this measure today, the Senate also took the following action:

Mikulski (for Dorgan) Modified Amendment No. 3227, to provide adequate funding for the Drug Courts program, previously agreed to on Thursday, October 4, 2007, was modified by a unanimous consent.

Pages S12913–14

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators: Mikulski, Inouye, Leahy, Kohl, Harkin, Dorgan, Feinstein, Reed, Lautenberg, Byrd, Shelby, Gregg, Stevens, Domenici, McConnell, Hutchison, Brownback, Alexander, and Cochran.

Page S12925

National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims: Senate agreed to S. Res. 326, supporting the goals and ideals of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

Page S12943

Recognizing Hunters Commitment to Safety: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 193, recognizing all hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety.

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Red Ribbon Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 348, supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week.

Pages S12943–44

Labor/HHS/Education Appropriation Act—Agreement: A unanimous consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday October 17, 2007, Senate begin consideration of H. R. 3043, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

Page S12944

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Williamson Evers, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Department of Education. (Prior to this action, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration.)

Pages S12943, S12946

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Joseph J. Murin, of Pennsylvania, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association.

Simon Charles Gros, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Deborah K. Jones, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait.

Patrick Francis Kennedy, of Illinois, to be an Under Secretary of State (Management).

Gus P. Coldebella, of Massachusetts, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

Brian Stacy Miller, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service.

Pages S12944–46

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Andrew R. Cochran, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, which was sent to the Senate on July 31, 2007. **Page S12946**

Messages from the House: **Page S12933**

Measures Referred: **Page S12933**

Executive Communications: **Pages S12933–36**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S12936–38**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S12938–42**

Additional Statements: **Pages S12932–33**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S12942–43**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S12943**

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—372) **Pages S12898, S12905, S12906, S12907, S12909–10, S12913, S12924, S12925**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 8:08 p.m., until 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 17, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S12944.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (TSA)

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) efforts and progress on H.R. 1, "Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007", after receiving testimony from Kip Hawley, Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration; and

Cathleen A. Berrick, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office.

PERSIAN GULF

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing to examine issues relative to security in the Persian Gulf from R. Nicholas Burns, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; and Mary Beth Long, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, Vice Admiral Jeffrey A. Wieringa, USN, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, and Major General Philip M. Breedlove, Vice Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff, all of the Department of Defense.

SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR EVERY (SAFE) PORT ACT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Security and Accountability For Every (SAFE) Port Act (Public Law 109–347) one year after its enactment, after receiving testimony from Stewart Baker, Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Policy; Reginald I. Lloyd, United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina, Department of Justice; Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Captain Jeffrey W. Monroe, Department of Ports and Transportation, Portland, Maine.

DOD FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine improving financial and business management at the Department of Defense (DOD), focusing on the DOD's business transformation process, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Jack Dave Patterson, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, and Paul A. Brinkley, Deputy Under Secretary for Business Transformation, both of the Department of Defense; and Dov S. Zakheim, Booz Allen Hamilton, McLean, Virginia.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to call.